

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/693,614

Examiner

Khiem Nguyen

Applicant(s)

YOUNG, MARK

Art Unit

2839

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Letter of 3/24/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-35.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 24 October 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Khiem Nguyen
Khiem Nguyen
Primary Examiner

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

None of the prior art disclose the claimed optical transmission cable interconnect for insertion in an undersea optical transmission cable as being recited in the independent claims of the present invention.

Claims 1-20 recite inter alia an optical transmission cable interconnect for insertion in an undersea optical transmission cable, comprising a plurality of modules, each of said modules including an internal housing having an outer dimension substantially equal to an outer dimension of an internal fiber splice housing of an undersea optical fiber cable joint, said internal housing including a pair of opposing end faces each having a retaining element for retaining the internal housing within an outer housing of said undersea optical fiber cable joint, the retaining element including an aperture through which at least one optical fiber extending from an end portion of the optical transmission cable extends into the internal housing; a sidewall interconnecting said opposing end faces, said sidewall including a receptacle portion having a plurality of thru-holes each being sized to receive a passive optical component; and a first segment of undersea optical transmission cable operationally coupling a first end face of a first of the modules to a second end face of a second of the modules.

Claims 21-35 recite inter alia an optical transmission cable interconnect for insertion in an undersea optical transmission cable, said interconnect comprising a plurality of undersea optical fiber cable joints; an optical amplifier module that includes an internal housing having an outer dimension substantially equal to an outer dimension


of an internal fiber splice housing of an undersea optical fiber cable joint, said internal housing including a pair of opposing end faces each having a retaining element for retaining the internal housing within an outer housing of said undersea optical fiber cable joint, the retaining element including an aperture through which at least one optical fiber extending from an end portion of the optical transmission cable extends into the internal housing; a sidewall interconnecting said opposing end faces, said sidewall including a receptacle portion having a plurality of thru-holes each being sized to receive a passive optical component; a plurality of segments of undersea optical transmission cable, a first of said segments operationally coupling a first end face of a first of the cable joints to a first end face of the optical amplifier module and a second of said segments operationally coupling a first end face of a second of the cable joints to a second end face of the optical amplifier module.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khiem Nguyen whose telephone number is 571 272-2096. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, TC Patel can be reached on 571 272-2098. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Khiem Nguyen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2839